

## HERITAGE AREA BULLETIN BOARD JANUARY 2003

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The New Year brings new resolutions, new opportunities and a new legislative session. Please make it your resolution to send news on heritage areas to your editor so it can be shared with all aficionados!

### LEGISLATION

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The 108th Congress is now in session, and a new Congress has brought some changes in committee chairs of interest to heritage areas. The new line-up is Richard Pombo (R-CA), Chair of the House Resources Committee, George Radanovich (R-CA), who continues as Chair of the Sub-committee, Pete Domenici (R-NM), Chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and Craig Thomas (R-WY) Chair of the Sub-committee. For more information visit the following web sites: [www.house.gov/resources](http://www.house.gov/resources) and [www.senate.gov/~energy](http://www.senate.gov/~energy). One piece of carry-over business is the 2003 budget. The Senate is wrapping up their budget negotiations, the House has adopted their recommendations and a conference committee will iron out the differences.

The first heritage area bill of the new congress has been introduced H.R. 280 David Hobson (R-OH) to establish the National Aviation Heritage Area.

### HERITAGE AREAS IN PRINT

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The number of articles on heritage areas and heritage area practice is very limited. However, a recent publication of the Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology *Designing the Llobregat Corridor: Cultural landscape and Regional Development* is a welcome addition to the field. This publication documents the joint work of the two universities to develop a regional revitalization strategy for the Llobregat River Corridor, which stretches from the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains through Barcelona to the Mediterranean. The study researched regional heritage planning in both Europe and North America, including the Blackstone River Valley National Corridor, Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area and Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, and provides both case studies and lessons learned about preserving cultural landscapes. For heritage area scholars it is a must read. To order a copy send the mailing address and \$27.95 (includes shipping) to:

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### POTENTIAL PARTNERS

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A locally organized and sponsored program that provides residents in a designated region with a way to plan and implement projects for community development, land conservation, environmental enhancement and water management sounds familiar, but look again, it's the US Department of Agriculture's Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) program. To date, almost 370 areas have been designated as RC&D areas by the Secretary of Agriculture. The areas are managed by RC&D Councils made up of local citizens who with some staffing and technical assistance from the Department of Agriculture develop an area plan and seek funding to carry-out identified projects. Visit the program web site at [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov). The RC&D Councils have a national association based in DC and a website at [www.rcdnet.org](http://www.rcdnet.org). So for those who haven't met their local RC&D link-up and give them a call. You may have more in common than you think!

## UPCOMING DATES

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Alliance of National Heritage Areas Annual Meeting	February 18-20	Washington DC
Alliance for National Heritage Areas Board Meeting	April 23-26	Nashville TN
<b>International Heritage Development Conference</b>	<b>June 7-11</b>	<b>Pittsburgh PA</b>

## ON THE ROAD

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Your editor spent some time in Pennsylvania this month attending a charette on the design and interpretation of the Carrie Furnace Site in the Rivers of Steel and at a future planning retreat with the Delaware and Lehigh Canal Corridor Commission. At the end of the month she travels to Salem, Massachusetts, in the heart of the Essex National Heritage Area, to meet with members of the National Park Service's intake program and share the good news about heritage areas. In February, it is off to Denver to present a panel on regional heritage strategies at the Colorado Historic Preservation Conference, said to be the largest state-wide preservation conference in the country.